

U.S. Serial No. 09/160,076DRAFT CLAIM AMENDMENTS - NOT TO BE ENTERED

Please cancel claims 31, 41 and 47.

Please add new claims 52-54, as follows:

52. (New) An expression vector comprising:

a nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion immunoglobulin heavy or light chain operably linked to a promoter sequence operational for expression of said nucleotide sequence in a haemopoietic or lymphoid cell in a mammalian host;

wherein said fusion immunoglobulin comprises: an N-terminal variable region of said heavy or light chain; and at least one epitope of an antigen that stimulates an autoimmune or allergic reaction in said mammalian host; and

wherein expression of said vector in said haemopoietic or lymphoid cell of said fusion immunoglobulin induces immunological tolerance to said at least one epitope in said mammalian host.

53. (New) An expression vector comprising:

a nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion immunoglobulin heavy or light chain operably linked to a promoter sequence operational for expression of said nucleotide sequence in a haemopoietic or lymphoid cell in a mammalian host;

wherein said fusion immunoglobulin comprises: an N-terminal variable region of said heavy or light chain; and at least one epitope of an antigen; and

wherein expression of said vector in said haemopoietic or lymphoid cell of said fusion immunoglobulin induces immunological tolerance to said at least one epitope in said mammalian host; and

wherein said vector is a retroviral vector.

54. (New) An expression vector comprising:

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a nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion immunoglobulin heavy or light chain operably linked to a promoter sequence operational for expression of said nucleotide sequence in a haemopoietic or lymphoid cell in a mammalian host;

wherein said fusion immunoglobulin comprises: an N-terminal variable region of said heavy or light chain; and at least one epitope of an antigen; and

wherein the expression of said vector in said haemopoietic or lymphoid cell of said fusion immunoglobulin induces immunological tolerance to said at least one epitope in said mammalian host; and

wherein said vector is a retroviral vector and said vector contains more than copy of the nucleotide sequence encoding said at least one epitope.

Please amend claims 32-39, 42-46 and 48-51, as follows:

32. (Amended) The expression vector of claim [31] 52 wherein said fusion immunoglobulin comprises an N-terminal variable region of said heavy chain and has said at least one [tolerogenic] epitope inserted adjacent to the first framework region of the [N-terminus] N-terminal variable region of the heavy chain.

33. (Amended) The expression vector of claim [31] 52 which is a retroviral vector.

34. (Amended) The expression vector of claim [31] 52 wherein said antigen [is associated with] stimulates an allergic reaction and is [an antigen] a protein of pollen, ragweed, or dust mite.

35. (Amended) The expression vector of claim [31] 52 wherein said antigen [is an autoantigen and] is selected from the group consisting of clotting factor VIII, acetylcholine receptors, collagen, myelin basic protein, thyroglobulin, and histocompatibility antigen.

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36. (Amended) The expression vector of claim [31] 52 which contains more than one copy of the nucleotide sequence encoding said at least one epitope.

37. (Amended) The expression vector of claim [31] 52 wherein the fusion immunoglobulin is an IgG.

38. (Amended) The expression vector of claim [31] 52 which [has] comprises the identifying characteristics of ATCC No. 69555.

39. (Amended) A transformed haemopoietic or lymphoid cell comprising the expression vector of claim [31] 52.

40. The cell of claim 39 which is a bone marrow cell.

42. (Amended) The expression vector of claim [41] 53 wherein said antigen [is associated with] stimulates an autoimmune [disease] or allergic reaction in said mammalian host [reactions of said animal].

43. (Amended) The expression vector of claim 42 wherein said antigen [is associated with] stimulates an allergic reaction and is [an antigen] a protein of pollen, ragweed, or dust mite.

44. (Amended) The expression vector of claim 42 wherein said antigen [is an autoantigen and] is selected from the group consisting of clotting factor VIII, acetylcholine receptors, collagen, myelin basic protein, thyroglobulin, and histocompatibility antigen.

45. (Amended) The expression vector of claim [41] 53 which contains more than one copy of the nucleotide sequence encoding said at least one epitope.

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46. (Amended) A transformed haemopoietic or lymphoid cell comprising the expression vector of claim [41] 53.

48. (Amended) The expression vector of claim [47] 54 wherein said antigen [is associated with] stimulates an autoimmune [disease] or allergic reaction in said mammalian host [reactions of said animal].

49. (Amended) The expression vector of claim 48 wherein said antigen [is associated with] stimulates an allergic reaction and is [an antigen] a protein of pollen, ragweed, or dust mite.

50. (Amended) The expression vector of claim 48 wherein said antigen [is an autoantigen and] is selected from the group consisting of clotting factor VIII, acetylcholine receptors, collagen, myelin basic protein, thyroglobulin, and histocompatibility antigen.

51. (Amended) A transformed haemopoietic or lymphoid cell comprising the expression vector of claim [47] 54.

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Comments: For Serial No. 09/160,076 (Our Ref.: 30807-2000110)

Enclosed are draft claim amendments (not to be entered) for discussion during our interview tomorrow. I will phone you at 11am EST; I look forward to discussing this case with you.

Catherine Kara